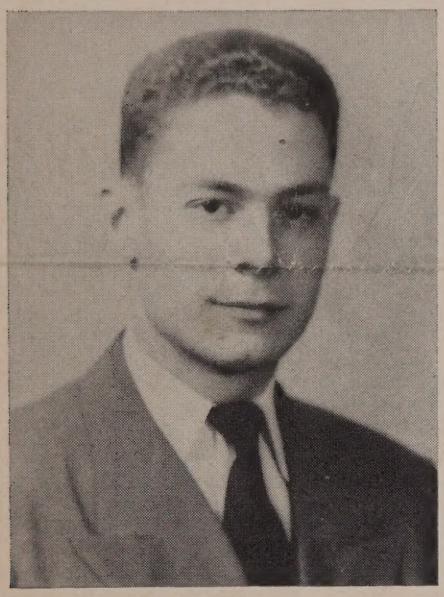
THE PULSE

NEWS OF THE NEW ENGLAND DEACONESS HOSPITAL

VOL. VIII, NO. 11 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS FEBRUARY, 1955

DEACONESS TO BUILD HOSPITAL CHAPEL



John F. Slayton

W. Clifford Fisher

Three New Department Heads are Named

Three new faces have appeared in administrative positions at the Deaconess.

Appointed heads of departments by Executive Director Robert D. Lowry were:

W. CLIFFORD FISHER of 17 Champa Street, Newton Upper Falls, purchasing agent.

JOHN F. SLAYTON of 49 Patton Road, Wellesley, administrative assistant in charge of administrative services.

BARBARA YORK of 31 Creighton Street, Cambridge, director of public relations.

Affable "Cliff" Fisher, well known to the Deaconess since 1946, is a man of wide and varied interests, here and in his home community.

Sunday School teacher at the First Methodist Church in Newton, a message router for Newton Civil Defense, a member of the Fraternity Lodge of Masons, father of four children and a night student in business administration at Northeastern University all add up to perpetual motion!

On Wednesday nights he is often a high scorer in the Deaconess bowling league. It is easy to understand why another pet hobby, photography, has had to take a back seat recently.

Now a five-year-pin man, Fisher is a native of Springfield. He was graduated from Newton High School, then barely had time to catch his breath before starting three years of World War II service with the Navy. He was a first class pharmacist mate in the European Theater.

His Deaconess career started out in pharmacy in 1946. After an attempt to combine a vocation with an avocation — running a photography business — he came back to NEDH as a clerk in the storeroom.

In 1951 his association with the Deaconess was interrupted again, this time by a nod from Uncle Sam. Fisher was stationed at both the Newport and Chelsea Naval Hospitals.

When he made another bee-line back to the Deaconess, he became assistant purchasing agent under Anna L. White, now Mrs. George T. Spellissy of Weston. And on January 1 he assumed his present position as purchasing agent.

In 1946, "Cliff" was married to Elinor Newey of Newton. Now there are four more Fishers — Clifford, II, 8; Jeffrey, 5; Leslie, 4; and Paul, 1.

(Continued on Page 2)

Initial Sketches Go To Building Committee

Executive Director Robert D. Lowry announced today that funds for the construction of a chapel at the New England Deaconess Hospital have been secured through the generosity of a friend of the hospital.

"At long last, a great need of the Deaconess Hospital is to be fulfilled. Initial sketches have been submitted to the Building Committee and it is hoped that the chapel construction will start sometime this summer," said Mr. Lowry.

The chapel will be the first major addition to the Deaconess since completion of the Central Building in 1953. The new milestone in the hospital's growth is the gift of Mr. Arthur T. Dooley.

The executive director's announcement continued:

"Because of the increase in building costs that followed World War II, we regretfully had to reduce our original construction program when the Central Building was launched. A much hoped for and needed chapel for patients, their families and friends and for the entire Deaconess family had to be foregone at that time.

"Now, thanks to the generosity of Mr. Dooley, a chapel is to be constructed.

"The chapel will probably be located on the Riverway, between the Deaconess Building and the Central Building. But numerous other locations are still under investigation.

"More news of this welcome venture will be forthcoming from our Building Committee." Its members are Lester C. Peabody, chairman, Mrs. William H. Ames and Mr. Frank M. McGowan. Ex officio members are Bishop John Wesley Lord, president of the NEDH; Francis W. Capper, chairman of the executive committee; Dr. Warren F. Cook, executive consultant, and Mr. Lowry.

As THE PULSE *went to press, the highest 30-day census in the history of the Deaconess Hospital was reported. The hospital averaged over 304 patients for the 31-day period of January 11 to February 10.*

THE PULSE

FEBRUARY, 1955

NEW ENGLAND DEACONESS HOSPITAL
Boston 15, Massachusetts

Published by the
Public Relations Department

Editor: BARBARA YORK

Reporters

Clara Algeri — Nan Mondello
Dorothy Convey — Marjorie Rasta
Marjorie Giffin — Cathy Sapienza
Eve Schandelmayer

Comptroller's Office Offers Tax Help

State and Federal income tax forms are now available in the office of the Comptroller, Mr. Decker.

The Comptroller's Office has tentatively arranged for special assistance to employees in making out their returns on Thursday and Friday, March 10 and 11. Both state and Federal returns this year need not be filed until April 15.

The new tax law allows you to deduct from wages amounts received as wages for the period during which you were absent from work on account of personal injuries or sickness. This amount may not exceed a weekly rate of $100.

If your absence is due to illness, the exclusion does not apply to the amount received for the first seven calendar days of the illness. However, if you are hospitalized on account of sickness for at least one day during the illness,the exclusion applies from the first day of absence.

A meeting of hospital employees known to be entitled to benefits under this provision was held in the Joslin Auditorium on February 10. Any employee who is in doubt as to whether he or she is entitled to benefits may confer with Mr. Decker.

Library Notes

The hospital is indebted to Mrs. P. C. Bjorkman of Saugus for six revolving game tables (she is the inventor af this type) which have been placed in various solariums and in Harris Hall, for the use of Scrabble "fans." Games and puzzles are among the items made available to patients by the Library on Palmer VI, as well as the usual current books and magazines.

Dr. H. R. Viets is again donor of much appreciated volumes to our Patients' Library. His new donations are *Song of the Sky* by Murchie, and *Almanac of Liberty* by Douglas.

That Darned Minister's Son by Haydn Pearson is the gift of Mrs. Henry Wiggin, a recent Palmer patient.

Surgical Residents of B C H To Serve Here

Affiliation with another sister hospital has been arranged by the NEDH.

Surgical residents of the Boston City Hospital will serve at the Deaconess on a rotating basis to broaden the scope of their training. In fact, the first new resident is already here. He is Dr. Robert Corrente of Providence, R. I.

The BCH residents will engage in a program similar to that of residents from the Peter Bent Brigham.

This is Heart Month!

Who'd rather get knee-deep in cold, wet snow to lift a shovel heavy with white stuff instead of relaxing in a warm, comfy chair? Lots of people who shouldn't, and that's just one reason why February has become Heart Month as well as the special month for cupid.

These tips, called "Ten Commandments for Living With Your Heart," are offered by the Massachusetts Heart Association to young and old alike for a long and happy association with one of your most valued possessions.

Find a doctor you respect and obey him.
Tell him the truth at all times and have periodic check-ups.
Pity the fat man; the statistician numbers his days.
If your brain earns your living, don't try to be a weekend athlete or laborer.
When the snow drifts high, let some younger fellow shovel the driveway.
Avoid self dosing — "He who doctors himself has a fool for a physician."
Fortunate is the man who has a mild heart condition and, knowing it, learns to live with his heart.
Plan to take "time out" daily, weekly, yearly, for rest. When you rest, your heart rests.
Health is more than the absence of disease. Don't worry.
Be your age.

Sounds easy, doesn't it!

IT'S WARMER INSIDE!

(Continued from Page 1)

Former "Gray Man"

John F. Slayton joined the Deaconess organization last November, eagerly jumping into hospital administrative work from a position in the New England sales department of the Hobart Manufacturing Company.

A native of Melrose, he attended Weston High School and Kimball Union Academy in Meriden, N. H. Later came Babson Institute in Wellesley and the Boston University College of Liberal Arts.

Slayton has maintained a constant interest in hospital work and helping the sick for many years. He at one time served as a Red Cross "gray man," working with paraplegics and aphasics at the Cushing Veterans Administration Hospital in Framingham. This was while he was a student at Babson.

He was first a patient and then a student of hospital administration at the Newton-Wellesley Hospital long enough to meet and marry Elizabeth Schaffer of Duxbury, graduate of the Newton-Wellesley School of Nursing in 1950 and a former assistant night supervisor there.

The Slayton's daughter, Beverly Louise, 3, is the most important member of the family. But she has innumerable "big brothers."

During the baseball and football seasons, her father takes on 20 to 30 Wellesley youngsters who congregate with their bats and footballs in a lot near the Slayton home. During the fishing season, the boys pile into the Slayton canoe for fishing trips.

When cold weather sets in Slayton bowls — naturally with the Deaconess league.

The new administrative assistant is a World War II Marine Corps veteran. He served at Pelelui, in the Philippines, on Okinawa and in China.

Former Reporter

Miss York, who succeeded Beryl Stern in the office in the Deaconess sunparlor, is no stranger to the hospital. Her former associations, however, were as a reporter and feature writer for two Boston newspapers.

She came down from the hills of Vermont (Middlebury College and then The Burlington Daily News) to The Boston Traveler in 1944. After a trip to Europe in the fall of 1953, she joined the city staff of The Boston Post.

A native of Somerville, she is a graduate of Somerville High School. Wartime "service" — nurse's aide at the Mary Fletcher Hospital in Burlington, Vermont, and the Mount Auburn Hospital in Cambridge.

The new public relations director likes to bowl, but makes no claim to expertness. Other sports she enjoys are tennis, skiing and golf.

Friends of Deaconess Give Valentine Shower for New Harris Hall Snack Kitchen

Who could be hungrier between meals than the most energetic of creatures, a student nurse!

That's why the Friends of the Deaconess Hospital invaded Harris Hall on Wednesday, February 2, to literally shower Deaconess undergraduates with armloads of pots and pans, dishes, cooking utensils, coffee pots and electrical appliances. The gifts put into business the dormitory's new snack kitchen, a joint project of the undergraduates, alumnae and Friends of the Deaconess.

Vieing with the tea table in popularity was a long table completely covered with the shiny new equipment. Cupids, hearts, and a bright red umbrella added to the festivities, carrying out a Valentine motif.

AND a good time was had by all. When the hospital's young hopefuls weren't sipping tea or coffee or munching on small sandwiches, they were singing old and new favorites snappily played by Mrs. Richard H. Overholt.

Other Friends who helped make the party such a success were Mrs. Lewis Hurxthal, Mrs. Robert D. Lowry, Mrs. Warren F. Cook, Mrs. Eugene Mather, Mrs. Dudley R. Howe, Mrs. Edgar N. Wrightington, Miss Grace Edmunds, and Mrs. Sheldon E. Wardwell, president of the Friends.

(Shown in the picture, left to right, are Dianne N. Condon of Worcester, and Janet L. Dixon of Duxbury, '58 seniors; Joanne Spooner of Newport, R. I., '56 junior; Miss Mildred Newton, school director, and Mrs. Hurxthal.)

Did You Know . . .

Mrs. Gwendolyn Fargo of Cleveland Circle, secretary to Mr. Worcester, left the Deaconess on January 28 to await the stork, expected the first week in June. She and her husband, Charles Fargo, a real estate man, plan to spend the next few months househunting.

Welcome to Mrs. Ariel Tose of 120 Peterborough Street, Boston, who stepped into Gwen's shoes. Mrs. Tose, former secretary at Brown Brothers Harriman and the Boston University School of Education, came to the Deaconess on January 17. She is the wife of Dr. Lawrence Tose, Boston City Hospital interne.

If you saw a performance of the San Carlo Opera Company while it was in Boston, you may or may not have known that one of its ballerina's is Miss Patricia Ryan, 23, daughter of Mrs. Ada Ryan of the Solution Room. Patricia has taken a leave of absence from a job as a dancing instructor to dance in the ballet.

Eskimos and Snowbanks Just Routine for Nurse Stationed in Alaska

Eskimos, Indians, mountains of snow, kerosene lamps and temperatures that jump up and down over the zero mark are the background of the exciting life being led by a Deaconess graduate nurse.

Arlene Chatterton of Somerset, Mass., class of '46 and former assistant head nurse on Deaconess IV, is pinchhitting for a sick minister's wife who also happens to be a nurse at St. John's in the Wilderness mission in Allakaket, Alaska. Arlene was called to Allakaket from Fort Yukon. She writes:

"Allakaket is a beautiful village located on the south bank of the Koyukuk River. As Fort Yukon, we are just within the Arctic Circle. . . . There are 24 inches of snow on the ground. This week the temperature ranged between 10 below and 10 above.

"Our water supply is a barrel filled with river water. The natives fill it for us — for a few. They do not like to do it, so we supplement it by melting snow. We boil two kettles or more of water each evening, which is put into a special container for drinking. Have washed clothes a few time but have melted snow first.

"Right after Christmas the power house burned down. Consequently no electricity. . . . Lighting is via wax candles, kerosene lamps and mostly by Coleman lanterns."

Then adds this modern Florence Nightingale enthusiastically:

"Got called out last evening, really early this A. M., for my first delivery in the home. A nine and a half pound girl. No difficulty. Two pains and there it was."

Methodist Hospitals Association Honors Three at Deaconess

Congratulations to three 25-year members of the Deaconess family who were honored by the National Association of Methodist Hospitals and Homes at the Association's meeting in Chicago February 9 and 10.

Awards of merit for 25 years of service in a philanthropic institution of Methodism were made to Dr. Warren F. Cook, executive consultant who was executive director for a quarter of a century; Miss Isabel Smith, food supervisor in the cafeteria, and Miss Mary E. Connolly of the laundry.

The new corresponding secretary of the Greater Boston branch, Massachusetts Industrial Nurses Association, is Ruth M. Torrey, graduate of the NEDH Training School in 1924.

Reminiscence: "Charity May Be Just as Strong as Courage"

By Dr. Warren F. Cook

He came striding into my office the other day, a big, handsome six-foot-two fellow in American uniform. I did not recognize him, but he was certainly good to look at.

Why should I remember him? It had been more than 18 years since I had seen him as a little fellow of three years.

And now he was a man with almost three years of world travel and military experience. When first I heard of him he was a child crawling on his hands and knees when he should have walked. He had club feet — very bad club feet.

He was brought to the hospital, through the social service secretary, and operated on. Not once, not twice, but 18 different times he went to the operating room to have this malady corrected. After 18 visits to the operating room and nearly two years in the hospital, he returned home to walk and play normally with other children.

When our social worker took him home there was a great gathering of neighbors and friends in the street to see him get out of the car and run to his mother's arms.

The hospital medical and surgical costs for this boy ran to over $3,000, but his family paid nothing — they could not; they were very poor.

Public charity backing the services of skilled surgeons had done a fine job.

Then, in the routine of doing similar but less spectacular things, we forgot until yesterday when our memory flashed back as he walked into our office in an American uniform. And there he stands, now ready to take his place in society as a strong, positive force.

Charity is often looked upon with misgiving, people thinking that the misfortune that made it necessary might have been avoided if the person had been strong enough or wise enough. And that because the person or his family is not strong enough, charity will likely be needed again and again.

We cheer for deeds of courage, but for charity we express pity. "Charity suffereth long and is kind," but in this tale we have an example of where charity was not only kind, but led to great strength — the strength of manhood fighting for liberty and freedom. Charity may be just as strong as courage, especially where it leads to rehabilitation.

The tale above illustrates the strength of charity. Here is a boy brought back to normalcy by the charity of a hospital and its good friends, its doctors and social workers, a boy who finally goes forth with loyalty and courage to fight for liberty and freedom.

What a testimony to the strength rather than the pity of charity! What a marvelous reward to those who support such charities and to social workers in hospitals and elsewhere, who are so often unsung and never fully understood!

Thanks From CARE

One member of the Deaconess family was more than thrilled last week when she received twenty thank you notes from Brazil.

She thought she had sent a $10 CARE package to some desperately needy family in a foreign land for Christmas. Instead, the "modest" contribution purchased 280 pounds of food for twenty different families in Brazil. One dollar purchased a 28-pound CARE package!

This miracle came about through CARE'S new Friendship Food Crusade to move surplus foods being held by the government to forgotten but needy overseas countries. Wrote CARE, "Apart from your own satisfaction in extending valued help to others, directly sharing our abundance strengthens belief and confidence in the fundamental goodness of our democratic way of life. This is the heart of the American people in action."

Bowling Scores

February 2, 1955

Team No.		Points
4	Mr. Emery	44
6	Mr. Fisher	41
8	Mr. Spalding	40
7	Mr. Lowry	40
3	Mr. Sabine	37
2	Mr. Nelson	34
9	Mr. Bettinelli	33
5	Mr. Osgood	31
1	Mrs. Maguire	21
10	Mrs. Brooks	21

High Singles for February 2, 1955

Barbara Adams	95
James Halligan	127

High Singles for the Year

Virginia Hume	114
Donald Sabine	124

High Three-String Totals for the Year

Virginia Hume	312
Charles Schraub	326

High Average for the Year

Virginia Hume	94
Charles Schraub	96

Weddings

Beryl Ruth Stern to Sherman David Spector on January 23. After a Bermuda honeymoon, the Spectors will live in Arlington, Virginia. Mrs. Spector is the former acting director of public relations.

Dorothy Jean Reed to Robert F. Winter, USN, on January 16. Mrs. Winter is a technologist in the chemistry laboratory.

Elaine McMahan, '53, to Thomas Coughlin on January 2. Mrs. Coughlin is a supervisor at the Deaconess.

Pat Matthews, secretary in X-ray, to Edwin A. Blackey, Jr., on January 22. The Blackeys are now living in Brookline.

Edith Marie Gudmand, '54, to Sgt. Olaf C. Wiedemann, USAF, on February 12. The ceremony was a double wedding at which Mrs. Wiedemann's twin sister, Judith Elaine, was also married.

Engagements

Nancy Ellis, '54, to Alden H. Neal of Saugus. Mr. Neal is a graduate of Eastern Nazarene College, where Miss Ellis also attended school.

Jean Frances Coombs, '56, to Roger C. Temple. Mr. Temple is a junior at Middlebury College. No date has been set for the wedding.

Evelyn V. Morris, '48, to Harold E. Griffin, Jr. Miss Morris is now attending Boston University, and Mr. Griffin is on the faculty of Nichols College.

Dorothy-Lee Jones to Lauriston Ward, Jr. Miss Jones is a board member of the Friends of the Deaconess and does volunteer work at the hospital. A May wedding is planned.

Barbara Maxine Crouse, '56, to John Preston Miller. Mr. Miller is studying at the Episcopal Theological Seminary in Cambridge.

Carol Ann Connolly to Donald J. Goode. Miss Connolly is with the Messenger Service. The wedding will be on February 19.

Phyliss Barbara Nelson, '54, to Sgt. Karl W. Wood of South Woodstock, Vermont. Sgt. Wood is now stationed in Korea.

Alice Jane Ricker, '55, to Louis G. LaPointe, Jr. of Beverly. At present Mr. LaPointe is serving with the Army at Fort Dix.

Nancy Ann Racine, '56, to John Francis Downey, Jr. Mr. Downey will graduate from Tufts College in June and enter the graduate school in September. No immediate wedding date has been set.

Emma Jane Lobley, staff nurse in Surgery, to Paul Rogele of Auburndale. Mr. Rogele is employed as a draftsman. The couple plans to be married in the Fall.